

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PRS-01 SS-20 INR-10 RSC-01 /051 R

DRAFTED BY AF/P:BARUSSELL:ADR

APPROVED BY AF/P;JMPOPE

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AF/E - MR. KEELEY

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R 012243Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL ASMARA

UNCLAS STATE 041776

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ET

SUBJECT: PRESS Q AND A: ETHIOPIA

FOLLOWING ARE PRESS SPOKESMAN'S RESPONSES TO QUERIES AT
PRESS BRIEFING FRIDAY:

Q. WHAT'S GOING ON IN ETHIOPIA NOW, JOHN. WHAT'S THE
SITUATION WITH THE EMPEROR THERE?

A. WELL, THE SITUATION WITH THE EMPEROR I THINK IS
PRETTY ADEQUATELY COVERED IN THE REPORTS THIS MORNING,

WHICH OUR INFORMATION MORE OR LESS MATCHES.

WITH RESPECT TO THE PHYSICAL SITUATION THERE, BOTH ADDIS
AND ASMARA HAVE REPORTED THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO VIOLENCE,
NO FIGHTING OR BLOODSHED OF ANY KIND ASSOCIATED WITH
RECENT DEVELOPMENTS WHICH THEY'VE BEEN ABLE TO OBSERVE,
NO REPORTS OF AMERICANS IN DANGER OR INJURED OR OTHERWISE
AFFECTED ADVERSELY BY DEVELOPMENTS THERE.

AND I MIGHT SAY THAT, ALTHOUGH THERE HAS BEEN NO VIOLENCE
TO DATE IN THE EVENTS IN ETHIOPIA, THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE
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SITUATION THERE IS UNCERTAIN AT THE PRESENT TIME, AND

WE ARE, THEREFORE, SUGGESTING THAT ALL TRAVELERS -- THAT
IS, AMERICAN CITIZENS -- WHO DO NOT HAVE PRESSING BUSINESS

IN ETHIOPIA DEFER THEIR TRAVEL PLANS UNTIL THE SITUATION
CLARIFIES.
CASEY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY PERSONNEL, TOURISM, PRESS CONFERENCES, MUTINY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE041776
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: BARUSSELL:ADR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740373/aaaacqfh.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUN 2002 by elbezefj>; APPROVED <04 DEC 2002 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS Q AND A: ETHIOPIA FOLLOWING ARE PRESS SPOKESMAN'S RESPONSES TO QUERIES AT
TAGS: PFOR, ET
To: ADDIS ABABA ASMARA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005